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Technical Report Series on the Boreal Ecosystem-Atmosphere Study (BOREAS)

Forrest G. Hall and Andrea Papagno, Editors

Volume 170 BOREAS TE-12 Incoming PAR Through the Forest Canopy Data

Elizabeth A. Walter-Shea and Mark A. Mesarch University of Nebraska-Lincoln

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt, Maryland 20771

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BOREAS TE-12 Incoming PAR Through the Forest Canopy Data

Elizabeth A. Walter-Shea, Mark A. Mesarch

Summary

The BOREAS TE-12 team collected PAR data sets in support of its efforts to characterize and interpret information on shoot geometry, leaf optical properties, leaf water potential, and leaf gas exchange. The data were collected at the SSA-OBS site from 04-Jul-1996 to 25-Jul-1996. The data are stored in tabular ASCII files.

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1. Data Set Overview

1.1 Data Set Identification

BOREAS TE-12 Incoming PAR Through the Forest Canopy Data

1.2 Data Set Introduction

The Terrestrial Ecology (TE)-12 team took measurements of incoming photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) as part of the BOReal Ecosystem-Atmosphere Study (BOREAS) at the Old Black Spruce (OBS) site in the Southern Study Area (SSA) from 04-Jul-1996 to 25-Jul-1996. PAR, in units of micro Einsteins per meter squared per second, from 0.4 to 0.7 microns, was measured in an array below the tree canopy, but above the understory. Ten LI-COR quantum sensors measured PAR, and minute averages are reported.

1.3 Objectives/Purpose

The objective of this research was to characterize the duration and magnitude of sun flecks under a boreal forest canopy.

1.4 Summary of Parameters

Minute averages of PAR, in units of micro Einstein per meter squared per minute.

1.5 Discussion

TE-12 took measurements of incoming PAR at SSA-OBS from 04-Jul-1996 to 25-Jul-1996. PAR, in units of micro Einsteins per meter squared per second, from 0.4 to 0.7 microns, was measured in an array below the tree canopy, but above the understory. Ten LI-COR quantum sensors measured PAR, and minute averages are reported.

1.6 Related Data Sets

TE-12 Shoot Geometry Data TE-12 Leaf Gas Exchange Data

2. Investigator(s)

2.1 Investigator(s) Name and Title

Elizabeth A. Walter-Shea, Assoc. Professor

2.2 Title of Investigation

Radiation and Gas Exchange of Canopy Elements in a Boreal Forest

2.3 Contact Information

Contact 1:

Mark A. Mesarch University of Nebraska 14 LW Chase Hall Lincoln, NE 68583-0728 (402) 472-5904 (402) 472-0284 (402) 472-6614 (fax) mmesarch1@unl.edu

Contact 2:

Elizabeth A. Walter-Shea University of Nebraska 246 LW Chase Hall Lincoln, NE 68583-0728 (402) 472-1553 (402) 472-6614 (fax) ewalter-sheal@unl.edu

Contact 3:

Andrea Papagno Raytheon ITSS NASA GSFC Code 923 Greenbelt, MD 20771 (301) 286-3134 (301) 286-0239 (fax) Andrea.Papagno@gsfc.nasa.gov

3. Theory of Measurements

Fluxes need to be measured at understory levels to relate to environmental and state variables and explain the stand scale fluxes. At the understory level, upper canopy elements shade the understory partially, creating sun flecks. These sun flecks fluctuate over time, both spatially and in intensity. An array of hemisphere sensors was placed above the understory to measure a represented area of transmitted PAR. The time frame of the measurements, 1-minute averages, provided a time scale representative of a plant's photosynthetic processes' reaction time.

4. Equipment

4.1 Sensor/Instrument Description

A LI-COR Quantum Sensor (LĪ-190SA) was used to detect sun flecks. A silicon photo diode with an enhanced response in the visible wavelengths was used to measure PAR, from 0.4 to 0.7 microns. A visible bandpass interference filter, in combination with color glass filters, was mounted in a cosine corrected head. Error calculations indicated that under sun-and-sky radiation, and under various natural or artificial light sources, the relative measurement errors are less than 5.0%. Therefore, this sensor can be used within or inverted over canopies and in greenhouses, controlled growth chambers, and confined laboratory conditions. Generally, this instrument measures hemispherical incoming radiation; however, when placed within a canopy, the instrument acts as a point source detector.

The quantum sensors were placed in an array surrounding a central point at varying distances from this central point. The table below describes the directions and distances from the central point for sensor.

Sensor serial number	Direction	Distance (m)
Q15566	North	15
Q9020	Northeast	16
Q15565	East	10
Q2738	East-Southeast	2.5
Q9123	Southeast	12
Q9022	South	12
Q7433	South-Southwest	1.7
Q7434	Southwest	5
Q10890	West	12
Q89085	Northwest	4.5

4.1.1 Collection Environment

Measurements were made onsite at the SSA-OBS site.

4.1.2 Source/Platform

Each LI-COR quantum sensor was attached to a LI-COR 2003S Mounting and Leveling Fixture. These fixtures are made of anodized aluminum with stainless steel leveling screws and a weatherproof spirit level. The fixture was attached to a wood block that was attached to the top of a pole, 0.6 m above the sphagnum surface. Once the wood block was attached to the pole, the leveling screws on the fixture were used to level the fixture holding the quantum sensor.

4.1.3 Source/Platform Mission Objectives

None given.

4.1.4 Key Variables

Incoming PAR under a tree canopy.

4.1.5 Principles of Operation

The LI-COR quantum sensor uses a silicon diode to convert sunlight to electrical energy (voltage).

4.1.6 Sensor/Instrument Measurement Geometry

The quantum sensors were placed in an array surrounding a central point at varying distances from this central point. The table below describes the directions and distances from the central point for sensor.

Sensor serial number	Direction	Distance (m)
Q15566	North	15
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Ò7434	Southwest	5
Q10890	West	12
O89085	Northwest	4.5

Each LI-COR quantum sensor was attached to a LI-COR 2003S Mounting and Leveling Fixture. These fixtures are made of anodized aluminum with stainless steel leveling screws and a weatherproof spirit level. The fixture was attached to a wood block that was attached to the top of a pole 0.6 m above the sphagnum surface. Once the wood block was attached to the pole, the leveling screws on the fixture were used to level the fixture holding the quantum sensor.

4.1.7 Manufacturer of Sensor/Instrument

LI-COR, Inc. Box 4425 Lincoln, NE 68504 (402) 467-3576

4.2 Calibration

4.2.1 Specifications

None given.

4.2.1.1 Tolerance

None given.

4.2.2 Frequency of Calibration

LI-COR quantum sensors were calibrated at the manufacturer in May 1996.

4.2.3 Other Calibration Information

Calibration coefficients for the sensors were in units of micro Einsteins per meter squared per second per millivolt.

Sensor Number	Serial Number	Coefficient
1	Q9020	-253.54
2	Q9022	-282.05
3	Q7434	-252.00
4	Q9123	-308.31
5	Q15566	-311.21
6	Q15565	-245.64
7	Q89085	-285.45
8	Q10890	-286.44
9	Q7433	-200.00
10	Q2734	-194.55

5. Data Acquisition Methods

The quantum sensors were placed in an array surrounding a central point at varying distances from this central point. The sensors were placed in the array to cover an area of approximately 600 m², which was representative of an area of understory under the canopy. The table below describes the directions and distances from the central point for sensor.

Sensor serial number	Direction	Distance (m)
Q15566	North	15
Q9020	Northeast	16
Q15565	East	10
Q2738	East-Southeast	2.5
Q9123	Southeast	12
Q9022	South	12
Q7433	South-Southwest	1.7
Q7434	Southwest	5
Q10890	West	12
Q89085	Northwest	4.5

Each LI-COR quantum sensor was attached to a LI-COR 2003S Mounting and Leveling Fixture. These fixtures are made of anodized aluminum with stainless steel leveling screws and a weatherproof spirit level. The fixture was attached to a wood block that was attached to the top of a pole, 0.6 m above the sphagnum surface. Once the wood block was attached to the pole the leveling screws on the fixture were used to level the fixture holding the quantum sensor. Data were measured every 5 seconds and reported as 1-minute averages.

6. Observations

6.1 Data Notes None given.

6.2 Field Notes None given.

7. Data Description

7.1 Spatial Characteristics

7.1.1 Spatial Coverage

The SSA measurement site and its associated North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83) coordinates are:

• SSA-OBS, site id G8I4T, Lat/Long: 53.98717_N, 105.11779_W, Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Zone 13, N: 5,982,100.5, E: 492,276.5.

7.1.2 Spatial Coverage Map

Not applicable.

7.1.3 Spatial Resolution

The maximum distance between any two quantum sensors was 27 meters. The entire array covered approximately 600 m².

7.1.4 Projection

Not applicable.

7.1.5 Grid Description

Not applicable.

7.2 Temporal Characteristics

7.2.1 Temporal Coverage

Data were collected at the OBS-SSA site From 04-Jul-1996 to 25-Jul-1996.

7.2.2 Temporal Coverage Map

Not available.

7.2.3 Temporal Resolution

Data were collected on most days from sunrise to sunset (approximately 4 a.m. to 10 p.m. local time). Measurements were made every 5 seconds and reported as 1-minute averages.

7.3 Data Characteristics

7.3.1 Parameter/Variable

The parameters contained in the data files on the CD-ROM are:

Column Name

SITE_NAME
SUB_SITE
DATE_OBS
TIME_OBS
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR1
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR2
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR3
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR4
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR5
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR6
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR7
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR8

MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR9 MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR10 CRTFCN_CODE REVISION_DATE

7.3.2 Variable Description/DefinitionThe descriptions of the parameters contained in the data files on the CD-ROM are:

Column Name	Description
SITE_NAME	The identifier assigned to the site by BOREAS, in the format SSS-TTT-CCCCC, where SSS identifies the portion of the study area: NSA, SSA, REG, TRN, and TTT identifies the cover type for the site, 999 if unknown, and CCCCC is the identifier for site, exactly what it means will vary with
SUB_SITE	site type. The identifier assigned to the sub-site by BOREAS, in the format GGGGG-IIIII, where GGGGG is the group associated with the sub-site instrument, e.g. HYD06 or STAFF, and IIIII is the identifier for sub-site, often this will refer to an instrument.
DATE_OBS	The date on which the data were collected.
TIME_OBS	The Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) when the data were collected.
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR1	The one-minute mean direct downward photosynthetic photon flux density based on measurements taken below the tree canopy but above the understory using quantum sensor 1.
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR2	The one-minute mean direct downward photosynthetic photon flux density based on measurements taken below the tree canopy but above the understory using quantum sensor 2.
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR3	The one-minute mean direct downward photosynthetic photon flux density based on measurements taken below the tree canopy but above the understory using quantum sensor 3.
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR4	The one-minute mean direct downward photosynthetic photon flux density based on measurements taken below the tree canopy but above the understory using quantum sensor 4.
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR5	The one-minute mean direct downward photosynthetic photon flux density based on measurements taken below the tree canopy but above the understory using quantum sensor 5.
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR6	The one-minute mean direct downward photosynthetic photon flux density based on measurements taken below the tree canopy but above the understory using quantum sensor 6.
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR7	The one-minute mean direct downward photosynthetic photon flux density based on measurements taken below the tree canopy but above the understory using quantum sensor 7.

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MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR8

The one-minute mean direct downward photosynthetic photon flux density based on measurements taken below the tree canopy but above the understory using quantum sensor 8.

MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR9

The one-minute mean direct downward photosynthetic photon flux density based on measurements taken below the tree canopy but above the understory using quantum sensor 9.

MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR10

The one-minute mean direct downward

indicate that an attempt was made to determine the parameter value, but the analysis personnel determined that the parameter value was below the detection limit of the instrumentation.

Data Not Cllctd

-- This value indicates that no attempt was made to determine the parameter value. This usually indicates that BORIS combined several similar but not identical data sets into the same data base table but this particular science team did not measure that parameter.

Blank -- Indicates that blank spaces are used to denote that type of value. N/A -- Indicates that the value is not applicable to the respective column. None -- Indicates that no values of that sort were found in the column.

7.4 Sample Data Record

The following are wrapped versions of data record from a sample data file on the CD-ROM.

```
SITE_NAME, SUB_SITE, DATE_OBS, TIME_OBS, MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR1,
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR2, MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR3, MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR4,
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR5, MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR6, MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR7,
MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR8, MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR9, MEAN_DIR_DOWN_PPFD_SNSR10,
CRTFCN_CODE, REVISION_DATE
'SSA-OBS-FLXTR', '9TE12-PAR01', 04-JUL-96, 2212, 79.8, 87.1, 246.0, 142.4, 212.3, 176.4,
84.3, 222.6, 1111.0, 75.2, 'CPI', 17-MAR-99
'SSA-OBS-FLXTR', '9TE12-PAR01', 04-JUL-96, 2213, 71.6, 80.5, 198.6, 113.1, 299.6, 112.5,
61.91, 109.7, 1106.0, 70.5, 'CPI', 17-MAR-99
```

8. Data Organization

8.1 Data Granularity

The smallest unit of data tracked by the BOREAS Information System (BORIS) was the data collected at a given site on a given date.

8.2 Data Format(s)

The Compact Disk-Read-Only Memory (CD-ROM) files contain American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) numerical and character fields of varying length separated by commas. The character fields are enclosed with single apostrophe marks. There are no spaces between the fields.

Each data file on the CD-ROM has four header lines of Hyper-Text Markup Language (HTML) code at the top. When viewed with a Web browser, this code displays header information (data set title, location, date, acknowledgments, etc.) and a series of HTML links to associated data files and related data sets. Line 5 of each data file is a list of the column names, and line 6 and following lines contain the actual data.

9. Data Manipulations

9.1 Formulae

None.

9.1.1 Derivation Techniques and Algorithms

Not applicable.

9.2 Data Processing Sequence

None given.

9.2.1 Processing Steps

None given.

9.2.2 Processing Changes

None given.

9.3 Calculations

9.3.1 Special Corrections/Adjustments

None given.

9.3.2 Calculated Variables

None given.

9.4 Graphs and Plots

None given.

10. Errors

10.1 Sources of Error

The manufacturer estimates that the LI-COR quantum sensor will measure within +/- 5.0 percent relative error of the true incoming PAR.

10.2 Quality Assessment

10.2.1 Data Validation by Source

None given.

10.2.2 Confidence Level/Accuracy Judgment

None given.

10.2.3 Measurement Error for Parameters

None given.

10.2.4 Additional Quality Assessments

None given.

10.2.5 Data Verification by Data Center

Data were examined for general consistency and clarity.

11. Notes

11.1 Limitations of the Data

None given.

11.2 Known Problems with the Data

None given.

11.3 Usage Guidance

None given.

11.4 Other Relevant Information

None given.

12. Application of the Data Set

This data set can be used to study the incoming PAR of the boreal forest.

13. Future Modifications and Plans

None given.

14. Software

14.1 Software Description

None given.

14.2 Software Access

None given.

15. Data Access

The incoming PAR data are available from the Earth Observing System Data and Information System (EOSDIS) Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Distributed Active Archive Center (DAAC).

15.1 Contact Information

For BOREAS data and documentation please contact:

ORNL DAAC User Services Oak Ridge National Laboratory P.O. Box 2008 MS-6407 Oak Ridge, TN 37831-6407

Phone: (423) 241-3952 Fax: (423) 574-4665

E-mail: ornldaac@ornl.gov or ornl@eos.nasa.gov

15.2 Data Center Identification

Earth Observing System Data and Information System (EOSDIS) Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Distributed Active Archive Center (DAAC) for Biogeochemical Dynamics http://www-eosdis.ornl.gov/.

15.3 Procedures for Obtaining Data

Users may obtain data directly through the ORNL DAAC online search and order system [http://www-eosdis.ornl.gov/] and the anonymous FTP site [ftp://www-eosdis.ornl.gov/data/] or by contacting User Services by electronic mail, telephone, fax, letter, or personal visit using the contact information in Section 15.1.

15.4 Data Center Status/Plans

The ORNL DAAC is the primary source for BOREAS field measurement, image, GIS, and hardcopy data products. The BOREAS CD-ROM and data referenced or listed in inventories on the CD-ROM are available from the ORNL DAAC.

16. Output Products and Availability

16.1 Tape Products

None given.

16.2 Film Products

None given.

16.3 Other Products

These data are available on the BOREAS CD-ROM series.

17. References

17.1 Platform/Sensor/Instrument/Data Processing Documentation LI-COR Radiation Sensors. 1991. Pub. No. 8609-56. LI-COR, Inc., Lincoln, NE.

17.2 Journal Articles and Study Reports

Newcomer, J., D. Landis, S. Conrad, S. Curd, K. Huemmrich, D. Knapp, A. Morrell, J. Nickeson, A. Papagno, D. Rinker, R. Strub, T. Twine, F. Hall, and P. Sellers, eds. 2000. Collected Data of The Boreal Ecosystem-Atmosphere Study. NASA. CD-ROM.

Sellers, P. and F. Hall. 1994. Boreal Ecosystem-Atmosphere Study: Experiment Plan. Version 1994-3.0, NASA BOREAS Report (EXPLAN 94).

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Sellers, P., F. Hall, and K.F. Huemmrich. 1996. Boreal Ecosystem-Atmosphere Study: 1994 Operations. NASA BOREAS Report (OPS DOC 94).

Sellers, P., F. Hall, and K.F. Huemmrich. 1997. Boreal Ecosystem-Atmosphere Study: 1996 Operations. NASA BOREAS Report (OPS DOC 96).

Sellers, P., F. Hall, H. Margolis, B. Kelly, D. Baldocchi, G. den Hartog, J. Cihlar, M.G. Ryan, B. Goodison, P. Crill, K.J. Ranson, D. Lettenmaier, and D.E. Wickland. 1995. The boreal ecosystem-atmosphere study (BOREAS): an overview and early results from the 1994 field year. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 76(9):1549-1577.

Sellers, P.J., F.G. Hall, R.D. Kelly, A. Black, D. Baldocchi, J. Berry, M. Ryan, K.J. Ranson, P.M. Crill, D.P. Lettenmaier, H. Margolis, J. Cihlar, J. Newcomer, D. Fitzjarrald, P.G. Jarvis, S.T. Gower, D. Halliwell, D. Williams, B. Goodison, D.E. Wickland, and F.E. Guertin. 1997. BOREAS in 1997: Experiment Overview, Scientific Results and Future Directions. Journal of Geophysical Research 102(D24): 28,731-28,770.

17.3 Archive/DBMS Usage Documentation None.

18. Glossary of Terms

None.

UTM

19. List of Acronyms

ASCII - American Standard Code for Information Interchange BOREAS - BOReal Ecosystem-Atmosphere Study BORIS - BOREAS Information System CD-ROM - Compact Disk-Read-Only Memory DAAC - Distributed Active Archive Center - Julian Day of Year DOY EOS - Earth Observing System EOSDIS - EOS Data and Information System GIS - Geographic Information System GMT - Greenwich Mean Time - Goddard Space Flight Center GSFC - HyperText Markup Language HTML - Intensive Field Campaign IFC - Mixed Wood MIX NAD83 - North American Datum of 1983 - National Aeronautics and Space Administration NASA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration AAON - Northern Study Area NSA - Old Aspen OA - Old Black Spruce - Oak Ridge National Laboratory ORNL - Prince Albert National Park PANP - Photosynthetically Active Radiation PAR - Remote Sensing Science RSS - Southern Study Area SSA - Terrestrial Ecology ΤE - Tower Flux TF - Uniform Resource Locator URL

- Universal Transverse Mercator

20. Document Information

20.1 Document Revision Date

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20.3 Document ID

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When using these data, please acknowledge E.A. Walter-Shea and M.A. Mesarch, both of UNL, and include citations of relevant papers in Section 17.2.

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20.5 Document Curator

20.6 Document URL

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A. Papagno: Raytheon ITSS	, NASA Goddard Space	Flight Center, Green	nbelt, Maryland
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